

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multi-plate friction clutch includes: a clutch piston 10 which is fitted to a clutch outer and capable of being hydraulically operated to press a group of first and second friction plates toward a pressure-receiving plate; an annular retaining groove formed in a pressing surface of the clutch piston; and a buffering Belleville spring accommodated in the retaining groove and capable of abutting resiliently against the group of the first and second friction plates. The retaining groove has an annular projection formed at its axial opening edge for inhibiting the disengagement of the Belleville spring from the retaining groove. Thus, even when the number of the friction plates is increased, a total gap between the clutch piston and the pressure-receiving plate can be set freely without giving consideration to the falling-off of the Belleville spring.